

GEOPAK/ MicroStation and Internet Software issues

According to the company ModernTech Google Desktop will cause GEOPAK/MicroStation to lock up when calculating quantities using the Design and Computation Manager. (The things you learn on the Internet)

Match Element Symbolology with the ALT key in V8i

Pressing the Alt key then left clicking on an element will change the active symbolology to the element selected. Even after a command has been started for example place line. By pressing the ALT key and then selecting an element on the screen the line that is being placed will change symbolology.

Change Text Case in V8i

MicroStation V8i has added a **Change Case** selection to the right click menu in the Text Editor – Word Processor dialog. Simply right click in the text area of the dialog to display the menu then select Change Case and desired case setting.

Change Case uses the **Apply changes to all** text option in the Tool Settings window. If the apply changes option is off Change Case will only operate on selected text.

The right-click menu is available in the three tools that use the Text Editor – Word Processor dialog: **Place Text [A][1]**, **Place Note [A][2]**, and **Edit Text [A][3]**



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Mouse Buttons in MicroStation V8i .

With V8i comes change. One of the first changes users will encounter is how the mouse works in MicroStation V8i. Over the years most users have become very comfortable (one could even say to comfortable) with the traditional IGDS/ MicroStation three button mouse where the data button is the left Mouse button, reset is the right mouse button and tentative is the middle mouse button. With V8i this changes a bit. By default the Data and Reset buttons remain the same but the Tentative buttons becomes a chord (the right and left buttons at the same time—LR). Just like it use to be when two button mice where the norm. In addition the following two additional key combinations can be used.

CTRL+LR—Using the Control Key in conjunction with the TENTATIVE Chord does the same thing as using the O key-in with AccuDraw. It will set the AccuDraw origin in a single step.

SHIFT+LR—Brings up the Snaps popup.

As in previous versions of MicroStation the Left Mouse Button is still Issues a DATA POINT which is use to accept, draw or select a command or action.

Button Bar
AccuSnap
Multi-snaps
Nearest
Keypoint
Midpoint
Center
Origin
Bisector
Intersection
Tangent
Tangent Point
Perp
Perp Point
Parallel
Point Through
Point On
Multi-snap 1
Multi-snap 2
Multi-snap 3

Some other cool key combinations you can use with the Left Mouse Button (L) include.

SHIFT+L- turns on Pan Scroll which will



allow you to pan with the mouse. While if you press the ALT key in conjunction with the Left Button (ALT+L) you can change the active attributes to those of an element you select in the dgn file (very useful if I do say so myself).

The Right Mouse Button (R) is still the reset button and will stop the current command when clicked. In addition you can use it in in combination with other keys for to pop up various menus for example. **SHIFT + R** will bring up the view control menu. The **CTRL +R** combination brings up a Main Toolbox Pop-up from which you can select your commands.

More in the next issue of the CADD News. Stay Tuned...

Reset	
Quickset Save	▶
Quickset Recall	▶
Displayset	▶
Update View	
Fit Active Design	
Window Area	
Window Center	
Zoom In	
Zoom Out	
Previous	
1 Element Selection	
2 Fence	▶
3 Manipulate	▶
4 View Control	▶
5 Change Attributes	▶
6 Groups	▶
7 Modify	▶
8 Delete Element	
9 Measure	▶
Open 'Main' as Toolbox	

Western Division Training Facilities Still up in the Air

As reported in the previous edition of the CADD News IT West (aka The Western Divisions CADD and PC Training and Support Center) lost it's lease at CVCC on September 30, 2008. When and where IT West will re-locate and re-open is currently up in the air due to the NCDOT's current situation. Until such time please feel free to contact Rande Robinson at 828.466.5526 or 919.357.7740 about CADD issues or David Dietrich at 919.386.9116 for PC training or support issues.



V8i Model Enhancements

MicroStation V8i there is now the ability to open a different model in each view from one design file. The model is fully editable in the view.

Jump to Active Level

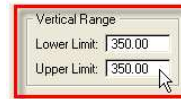
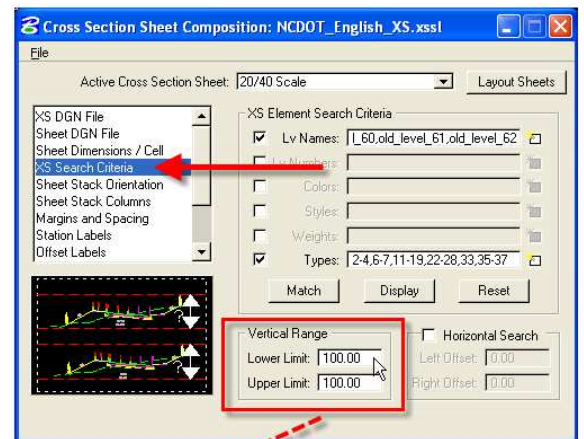
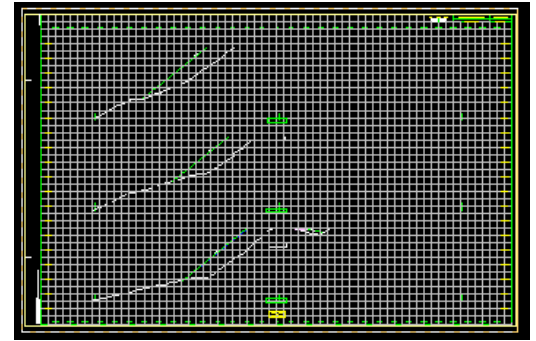
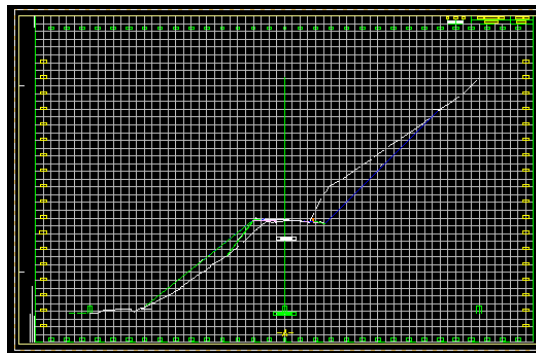
Ever been scanning through a whole load of references and levels and can't find the active level among them all - or simply can't be bothered to scroll?

In V8i, just right-click on Level Manager or Level Display and pick Jump to Active Level

Laying Out XPL Sheets for High Fills and Low Cuts Mountainous

Question: When I layout the x-section sheets only a small amount of the ground lines and templates actually plot. Some ground lines and templates completely plot and as it progresses through the sheets the ground lines and templates plot less and less. What can I do to fix this issue?

Answer: For TIP Projects typically located in the mountainous region of North Carolina with high fills and low cuts, change the "Vertical Range" distance settings found under the XSSL **XS Search Criteria** option. The default is 100' above and below the horizontal green XS cell line. Increase these values should fix this particular problem



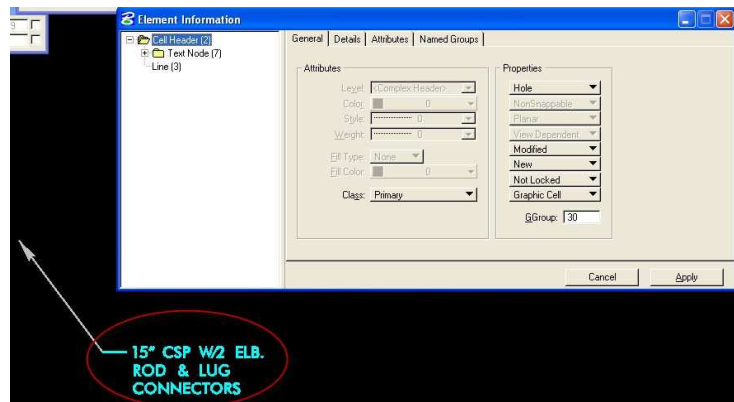
Thanks to Oak Thammavong

For more questions and answers check out the Roadway Q&A forum at <http://www.ncdot.org/doh/preconstruct/highway/roadway/QA/>

V8i File Opening Issue

The problem with the V8i bombing when opening files containing references to the DRN boils down to the element shown below.

A simple "Drop Status" command in V8 should resolve the issue to where it will not bomb out in V8i. We are still coordinating with Bentley on a more appropriate fix for this issue.





Spelling the same as Word

EatyourCAD, 10/08/09

You know what it's like... you've added all the typical words that spellchecking flags up into Word, like XRef or Hilti or kN or draughting, but you've never gotten round to updating your CAD custom dictionary. Wouldn't it be great if you could just use the same dictionary in Word and MicroStation and AutoCAD?

`MS_SPELLINGUSERDICTIONARY =`

`$(APPDATA)/Microsoft/Proof/custom.dic`

You'll find it under Workspace > Configuration in the Spelling Category. Highlight "Spelling User Dictionary" and either Edit to type in the value above, or click on Select to browse to your Word dictionary.

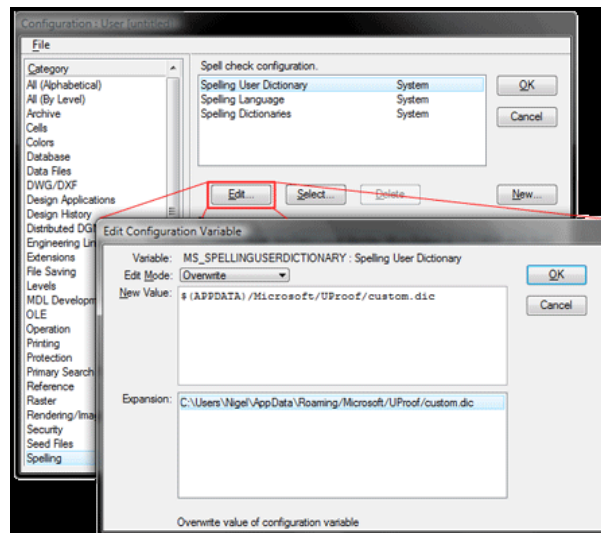
Well of course you can!

Point `MS_SPELLINGUSERDICTIONARY` to the location of Word's dictionary.

On NCDOT CADD PCs the custom dictionary, custom.dic is located in your

`C:\documents and Settings\username\Application Data\Microsoft\Proof` folder.

So to point to that, your best bet is to use:



How to get CADD Training



With each new version of software comes the never ending activity of learning how the program's great new features work and which old ones don't. The introduction of MicroStation V8 and its associated programs are no exception.

The additions of unlimited named levels, models and a slew of user interface enhancements can make one's first attempt to use V8 a bit over whelming. If you need training for a new employee or feel you need a refresher course in any of our CADD products, all you need to do is go to the CADD Support section of the NCDOT Intranet Portal at:

<https://intranet.dot.state.nc.us/portal/Home/Teams/IT/CADD/CADDSupport/tabid/142/Default.aspx>

Then select Training from the Document Library CADD Menu. From the Training page download and fill out the CADD request Training form and mail the form to:

Steve Brown
Engineering Application
Services
1597 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1597

CADD Services will get you into the next available class provided there is no waiting list.

Remember that it is not necessary to continue to fill out requests if a request is on record. If in doubt email Steve at sbrown@ncdot.gov

Also, when making a request, **check off all the classes that you wish to take.** (i.e. It's not necessary to complete MicroStation before you can request GEOPAK). Once we receive and enter a request our database keeps up with them.

MicroStation AccuDraw Tips

Activating AccuDraw

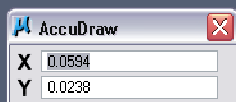
AccuDraw is no use if you don't have it activated.



Toggle AccuDraw

To start AccuDraw you need to use the Toggle AccuDraw button. You'll find this on the Primary Tools, next to Element Information:

If AccuDraw is not already running, this will open the AccuDraw dialogue box. If it was already running, it will close it:



Once you have it open, you still may not be able to enter any shortcuts without having to first click on the AccuDraw dialogue box.

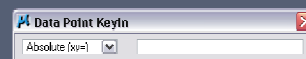
The Enter Key When AccuDraw is active, [Enter] will lock AccuDraw to the direction you are moving. You can use this "Smart Lock" to guarantee you are drawing exactly along an axis.

O, that's what it does

The "O" shortcut (for Origin - not Offset as some people are mistakenly taught) is probably the single most important AccuDraw command. Using the "O" shortcut allows you to reposition AccuDraw's origin during any command.

Absolute Mode

AccuDraw can also enter *absolute* co-ordinates. When AccuDraw is active, type P to bring up the Data Point Keyin window:



Choose "Absolute (xy=)" from the menu on the left and type in your co-ordinate in the text box. Enter the co-ordinate in the format X,Y,Z* If one or more values are 0 you may either enter 0 or leave it blank.

100,0,0 is the same as 100
100,0,100 is the same as 100,,100
* The Z value is only necessary in a 3D file.

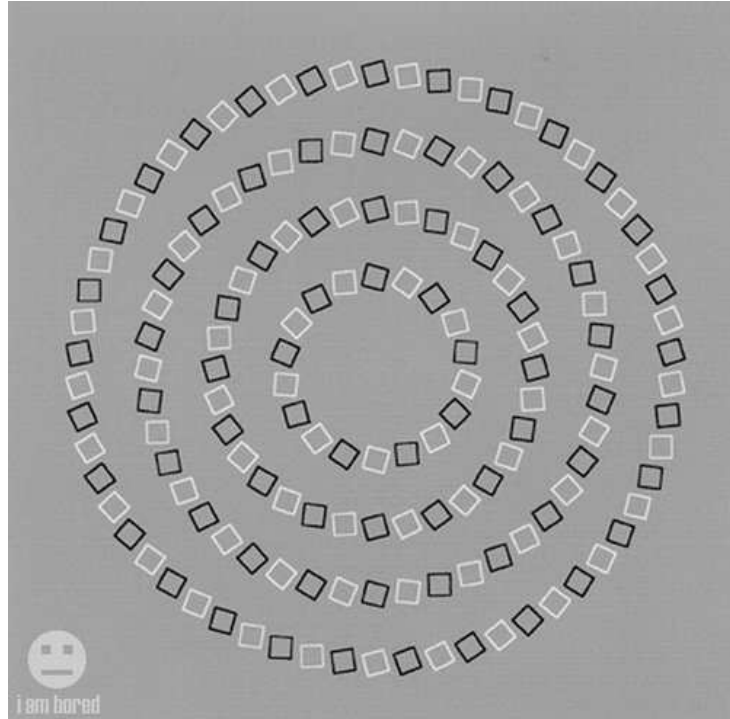
The absolute co-ordinate values are distances from the design file's global origin.





Fun Fact

How many concentric
Circles do you see ?



Quick Kill

Ever wanted to kill a non-responding windows program from the command line? Try this Key in the next time.

```
taskkill.exe /f /fi "status ew  
not responding"
```

Makes a great batch file
also.

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CADD Services

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On the Intranet at

[https://intranet.dot.state.nc.us/
portal/Home/Teams/IT/CADD/
tabid/63/Default.aspx](https://intranet.dot.state.nc.us/portal/Home/Teams/IT/CADD/tabid/63/Default.aspx)

Last Word—Murphy's Lesser Known Dictums

1. Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.
2. He who laughs last, thinks the slowest.
3. Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.
4. Those who live by the sword get shot by those who don't.
5. Nothing is foolproof to a sufficiently talented fool.
6. The 50-50-90 rule: Anytime you have a 50-50 chance of getting something right, there's a 90% probability you'll get it wrong.
7. If you lined up all the cars in the world end to end, someone would be stupid enough to try to pass them, five or six at a time, on a hill, in the fog.
8. If the shoe fits, get another one just like it.
9. The things that come to those who wait will be the things left by those who got there first.
10. Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach a man to fish and he will sit in a boat all day sinking worms.
11. Flashlight: A case for holding dead batteries.
12. The shin bone is a device for finding furniture in a dark room.
13. A fine is a tax for doing wrong. A tax is a fine for doing well.
14. When you go into court, you are putting yourself in the hands of 12 people who weren't smart enough to get out of jury duty.